

TOWN OF COTTAGE GROVE - CODE OF ORDINANCES

CHAPTER 20 - ANIMALS

20.01 REGULATION OF DOGS AND CATS

(1) DEFINITIONS

(a) "At large" means to be off the premises of the owner, and not under the direct control of the owner or some other person. A dog or cat enclosed within its owner's vehicle, or within the vehicle of another person with the owner's consent, shall be considered to be on the owner's premises, and not "at large". Neither dogs or cats shall be considered "at large" when the animal is under the direct control of its owner or authorized handler; and the owner or handler has obtained prior permission from the landowner to allow the animal on the property.

(b) "Direct control" means that the animal is in view of the owner or authorized handler at all times the animal is off the premises of the owner; and the owner or handler has the ability to immediately physically restrain the animal.

(c) "Habitually" means 3 or more documented occasions within a period of 60 days.

(d) "Owner" means any person who owns, harbors, keeps, or controls a dog or cat. The occupant of any premises on which a dog or cat remains, or to which it customarily returns daily, for a period of 10 days, shall be presumed to be harboring, or keeping the dog or cat.

(e) "Veterinarian" has the meaning designated under s. 453.02(7), Stats.

(2) RESTRICTIONS ON KEEPING DOGS AND CATS

An owner will be in violation of this ordinance if their dog or cat, does any of the following within the town limits:

(a) Habitually pursues any vehicle upon any street or highway.

(b) Assaults, or attacks any person.

(c) Is at large.

(d) Habitually barks or howls to the reasonable annoyance of any person.

(e) Kills, wounds, or worries any domestic animal.

(f) Is suspected of biting a person, or being infected or exposed to rabies; has not been quarantined as specified in ss. 95.21(4) and (5), Stats.

(g) Exhibits symptoms of rabies, as determined by a veterinarian, during a quarantine period; and has not been destroyed as specified in s. 95.21(5)(d), Stats.

(h) Defecates in any public park or recreation area, or within any right-of-way of a subdivision; without its manure being immediately collected and removed by the person in

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control of said animal.

(i) Being a dog more than 5 months of age, which is not licensed in accordance with the provisions of ss. 174.05 and 174.07, Stats.

(3) POLICE K-9 DOGS EXEMPTED

A police "K-9" dog shall not be considered in violation of the provisions of (2)(a-h), at any time it is on duty with its handler. This exemption applies to K-9 dogs assigned to any appropriately trained law enforcement officer in the state.

(4) LICENSING OF DOGS

(a) The provisions of ss. 174.05 - 174.09, Stats. are hereby adopted and made a part of this ordinance with the same force and effect as if they were fully reprinted herein.

(b) No person shall own, or keep any dog more than 5 months of age without obtaining a dog license from the town treasurer.

(c) The licensing year shall be from January 1 thru December 31.

(d) A license fee, as specified in s. TCG 07.02(12), shall be paid to the town; in addition to the dog license fee imposed by Dane county.

(5) DUTY OF OWNER IN CASE OF DOG OR CAT BITE

(a) Every owner who knows, or reasonably could believe, that their dog or cat has bitten any person, shall immediately report the incident to the town police department; and shall keep the animal quarantined under the supervision of a veterinarian, for not less than 14 days after the incident occurred.

(b) The owner of any such dog or cat, shall surrender it for veterinary examination on the first and last day of isolation, and on one intervening day; and shall be responsible for any expenses incurred as a result of such examinations.

(c) No person shall remove any dog or cat from quarantine, until the veterinarian certifies that the animal has not exhibited any signs of rabies.

(6) IMPOUNDMENT OF DOGS AND CATS

(a) In addition to any penalty imposed against owners of animals which are in violation of this ordinance, any police officer of the town may impound any dog or cat in accordance with the provisions of s. 174.046, Stats.

(b) Owners or their authorized representatives may repossess dogs and cats impounded under this section, by:

1. Providing their name, address, and telephone number.

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2. Paying the cost of keeping the dog or cat to the place of impoundment.
3. Providing evidence that a dog is vaccinated against rabies, or a receipt from a licensed veterinarian for prepayment of a rabies inoculation.
4. Providing evidence that a dog is licensed in accordance with (3).

(c) Dogs impounded for a minimum of 7 days shall be considered to be unclaimed, and may be disposed of in accordance with the provisions of s. 174.046(9), Stats.

(7) ENFORCEMENT

Any person who believes that a dog, cat, or an owner, has violated this ordinance, shall file a complaint with the town police department. Upon request of the municipal court, the person complaining, shall sign a formal written complaint, and appear in court to testify in support of their complaint.

(8) PENALTY FOR VIOLATION

Violations of this ordinance shall be punishable as class C forfeitures, under s. TCG 25.04.

(9) EFFECTIVE DATE

(a) The original dog ordinance was adopted 6 Jan 1992, with the licensing provisions adopted 2 Mar 1992.

(b) This section shall take effect upon passage and publication.

20.02 OFFENSES AGAINST ANIMALS

(1) STATE STATUTES INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

The following statutory references following the prefix "20", are adopted as offenses under this ordinance; provided the penalty for the commission of such offenses shall be limited to a forfeiture imposed under s. TCG 25.04.

20-951.01	Definitions (offenses against animals).
20-951.015	Construction and application.
20-951.02	Mistreating animals.
20-951.06	Use of poisonous and controlled substances.
20-951.13	Providing proper food and drink to confined animals.
20-951.14	Providing proper shelter.
20-951.15	Animals; Neglected or abandoned; Police powers.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE

(a) The referenced state statutes were adopted as part of section 10.01(2) of this code, on 7 Jun 1993.

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- (b) This section shall take effect upon development, passage and publication,.
- (3) ANIMAL HEALTH
- (4) [Text to be developed.]